

**Medical Control Guideline: MEDICATION ORDERS / ADMINISTRATION**

**PRINCIPLES:**

1. A complete and accurate medication order is essential for patient care.
2. Closed-loop communication (repeating orders back to the base hospital and to paramedic partner) reduces medication errors.

**GUIDELINES:**

1. Base hospitals must provide complete medication and fluid orders to include:
  - a. Name of medication
  - b. Dose (mg and mL to be delivered)
  - c. Route of administration per L.A. County protocols
    - i. Intravenous (IV)
    - ii. Intramuscular (IM)
    - iii. Intranasal (IN)
    - iv. Intraosseous (IO)
    - v. Nebulized (via neb)
    - vi. Orally Disintegrating Tablet (ODT)
    - vii. Per Os/Oral (PO)
    - viii. Rapid infusion (IV/IO) – fluid administration as quickly as possible
    - ix. Slow IV/IO push – dose administered over 60 seconds
    - x. Sublingual (SL)
  - d. Frequency of administration, if applicable
2. Paramedics shall repeat complete orders back to the base hospital.
3. Pro re nata (PRN) orders should have indications for administration.